

GREETINGS FROM COOLIDGE SCHOOL

April 28, 2014

www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/coolidge

Dear Families,

In my last listserv message I described what a thrill it was to have the chance to visit with returning Coolidge students. It's heartwarming to see that although they are now at Sherwood, Oak or Shrewsbury High, our former students still relish sharing their learning with their 'old' teachers. It's gratifying to see that although they are growing up, "our kids" remain caring people who contribute to their community. In fact, I think as a school we are special in that regard.

Over the break I met some former Coolidge students who are best described as "young at heart". They haven't attended school here for years, and yet I'm delighted to tell you that recently they also reached out to help us with an act of service. Last Tuesday this small group visited Coolidge to give our bus hallway a much-needed facelift. Thanks very much to Pastor Ed Fanjoy and the good people at Wellspring United Methodist Church who supplied the will, the brushes and the rollers needed restore the corridor to its former brightness. It gave returning staff and students alike a little boost to see it this morning. We will continue to feel that boost in the remaining months of school, as in leaving they assured me that they'd like to continue the connection. Aren't we fortunate to have friends like that?

We are also grateful to you for your support as we transition into the last and in many ways most important months of school. Although the weather is alluring, our primary focus must remain on teaching and learning. With MCAS coming soon for grades three and four and end of year assessments on the horizon for all, it's important that we all continue to make practicing academic skills a priority.

Sincerely,

Amy

Amy Clouter
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES:

May 2	School Store
May 6 & 7	Gr. 3 Math MCAS Annual Town Election
May 9	Grade 4 visits SELCO
May 10	Relay for Life Grade 4 Walk, at OMS
May 12	Early Release Day: students dismissed at 12:15, no lunch
May 13, 14	Grade 4 Math MCAS
May 13	PTO Meeting, 7 pm in the Media Center
May 16	School Store
May 26	Memorial Day, no school
May 28	SELCO visits Grade 4 Teacher Appreciation luncheon

*****Please note MCAS dates for third and fourth grade*****

May 6 & 7

Gr. 3 Math

May 13 & 14

Gr. 4 Math

A Note from the School Nurse

Now that Spring is here, the children are sometimes coming to school wearing outfits that include sandals or flip flops. When wearing shoes such as these, they run the risk of tripping and/or falling. School is an active place the children are running and playing in wood chips on the playground and in the grass on the field. Inside the school they are climbing stairs and participating in physical education. Open toed sandals and flip flops are not safe. Children's feet need proper fitting shoes with instep support to fully develop into adult feet. So please keep the sandals and flip flops for the beach as intended!

Please stop in and check the lost and found "clothes line" this week. There are many winter hats, gloves, coats and sweatshirts to be claimed! At the close of school on Friday, May 2 the left over items will be donated to charity.

Thank you,
Katie Zimmermann RN

FYI

1. As you know, one of the tasks teachers tackle in May has to do with class placement. Accordingly, we invite interested parents and families to participate in the process by sharing their insights and describing their child's needs. Parent input is an important factor we consider in building class lists. At the same time, making plans for next year will be complicated, because the number of classes we will have at Coolidge depends on the outcome of the budget situation. We have a lot of uncertainty going into the scheduling as well as placement process, and parents should know that this makes what is already a complex process even harder. If you would like to fill out a placement form you can find it attached and/or on our website. That said, please do not feel that you must fill out a form- or assume that filling out the form means that all your requests will be honored. The form is merely a way for us to consider new information and to make decisions with home insights in mind.
2. Please remember to practice safe driving habits in our parking lots. Going slow in the pick up and drop off line and taking that "extra look" is really important, especially in the winter season. Your care for our students and staff is appreciated. **Our neighbors on Florence Street would be most grateful if drivers in our pick up line by 2:30 respect their driveway space especially so that they too can pick up their children and grandchildren in the afternoon**
3. The Coolidge PTO is pleased to announce that Young Rembrandts will be returning to Coolidge in the coming weeks for cartooning. The Monday class is now full BUT there is still room for the Friday class. The Friday class will begin May 2. Students complete multiple pictures each week – all tied together by a common theme or by telling a sequential story. For more information, see our website, www.youngrembrandts.com/swboston-centralma.

PTO NEWSFLASH

Monday, April 28, 2014

PTO NEWSFLASH

Email: ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Blog: <http://coolidgepto.wordpress.com/> The PTO has created a blog as an additional resource for information and events. Come check it out!

Facebook Group: "Calvin Coolidge PTO" <http://www.facebook.com/groups/coolidgepto/> All parents, guardians, and staff are welcome to join our group on Facebook. It's a great place to chat with the community.

Direct Donation: <https://npo.justgive.org/coolidgepto> There are many ways to help support the PTO, a direct donation is just one.

Catalog Fundraisers Looking for Help: The PTO sponsors catalog fundraisers in the Fall and the Spring which earn a significant amount of the PTO's funds. These critical fundraisers are an important component of our support for students' enrichment programs. The current chairs want to share their knowledge on running these programs with new volunteers so these successful fundraisers can continue after their families leave Coolidge. Most of the work can be completed at home at a time that works for you. The fundraiser can be run by more than one person if you want to work with a friend or make a new one. You can learn how to run a fundraiser from someone who's done it before and lead the way with confidence the following year. *We look forward to working with you!* Please contact ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Garden Party Auction Basket: Donations need to be in by May 9th

The **Garden Party** Committee has asked the PTO and Calvin Coolidge Parents to help put together a basket of "That's Music to Our Ears!" (Music theme) items to be auctioned off at the **Garden Party**, on June 14th. The basket will have a value of \$250-\$300.

As you probably know, *100% of the funds raised from the **Garden Party** will go to all Shrewsbury Public Schools.*

We need gift certificates to iTunes or Best. If you would like to donate them, please signup at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C48AAA728AA8-garden?uToken=26EFCBFBF706F8075EC2DFCE02E8>.

Items can be placed in the main office **by May 9th**. Thank you so much for helping us raise money for our schools!

Tickets for the **Garden Party are still available!!** Please visit <http://www.shrewsburygardenparty.com/> for more details!

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

Each year at Coolidge we take the time to say "thank you" to all of the wonderful teachers and staff that do so much for our children every day at school. In your child's backpack this week, you should have found a template for your child to create a thank you note or two for their favorite Coolidge staff members. In addition, we are asking for your help to provide us with beverages, paper goods, salads, appetizers and desserts.

Please be sure to deliver all items to school on the morning of the event, Wednesday, May 28th. Paper goods can be dropped off earlier and left in the main office.

Please label dishes and service items with your name on them. If items are left unlabeled, we will assume that you do not want them back.

In addition- if you are providing a homemade food item, we would love to share your recipe with the staff. So, please include 50 copies of your recipe on a 3x5 recipe card to share with our staff. Something computer generated is fine...this is not mandatory but will make for a nice added touch! (none provided a recipe)

DATE: 5/28/2014 (Wed 11:00AM - 1:15PM)

Sign up for food items please log on to: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C48AAA728AA8-teacher?uToken=26EFCBFAF900FD075EC2DFCE02E8>

Any questions please contact Emily at klinedinst.emily@gmail.com

Support the PTO Poster Contest

Thank you to all the Coolidge students that made posters! Taking the time to make such amazing posters showed such great support community support! The winners were announced at the Spring Fling. Please log on to our PTO blog tonight to see the winners and their posters.

<http://coolidgepto.wordpress.com/>